All Party Committee on Basic Income

Meeting #8 Minutes – September 26, 2023 2:30pm – 3:30pm West Block, Confederation Building

In attendance:

Hon. Paul Pike, Minister, Children, Seniors and Social Development (CSSD), Chair Jim Dinn, MHA, St. John's Centre (via teleconference)
Sherry Gambin-Walsh, MHA, Placentia-St. Mary's Craig Pardy, MHA, Bonavista
Aisling Gogan, Assistant Deputy Minister, Prevention and Early Intervention, CSSD Scott Fleming, Policy Analyst, Third Party Caucus
Margot Pitcher, Executive Assistant, CSSD
Robert Piccott – Policy and Planning Development Specialist, CSSD (recorder)

Regrets

Hon. Bernard Davis, Minister, Minister of Environment and Climate Change

Agenda Items:

1. Review and approval of minutes

- August 10, 2023 meeting
- The Minutes of the last meeting were approved by the committee.

2. Consultation letters

- Letters were approved by the committee with the addition of a timeline for response. Letters will be sent to recipients via email
 - Indigenous Governments
 - MNL / NLEC / NLFL
 - Disability organizations

3. Reporting format/template

- The committee discussed the All Party Committee on Mental Health documents as a template for this committee's reporting. Given this committee's focus, committee members agreed that this report should be shorter and have fewer recommendations.
- Committee discussed the proposed outline for the report and agreed it is a good working outline:
 - Introduction
 - The All Party Committee review a process overview of the work completed, including meeting with experts, stakeholders and people with lived experience.
 - o What we Heard an overview of the main points
 - o The current system of federal and provincial benefits
 - Recommendations
 - \circ Conclusion

- Staff will draft of sections 2,3 and 4 for review and discussion by the committee and also provide draft recommendations.
- MHA Dinn tabled a document of six possible recommendations for the committee to review. Committee members will review these proposed recommendations and discuss at the next meeting. S. Fleming will email the recommendation document to the full committee.
- Committee members will think about possible recommendations and propose wording in advance of the next meeting to inform the discussion.

4. Next steps

- Committee members discussed considerations around timing and delivery of findings, particularly given that the House of Assembly will close on November 16, 2024.
- The Committee would like to present the report to the House of Assembly during the Fall sitting if possible. This is an aggressive timeline; therefore, members agreed they may need to meet twice in October.
- As chair, Minister Pike will make a decision on the timing of the next meeting(s), based on the work completed by Staff.

Robert Piccott, Recorder